CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—HOUSE

Nussle Spratt Stearns Rogers Ortiz Rohrabacher Oxley Roukema Stenholm Stump Stupak Pappas Royce Parker Ryun Talent Salmon Pastor Tanner Paul Sandlin Tauzin Sanford Paxon Taylor (MS) Pease Saxton Taylor (NC) Peterson (MN) Scarborough Thornberry Peterson (PA) Schaefer, Dan Thune Schaffer, Bob Petri Thurman Pickering Sensenbrenner Pickett Sessions Traficant Shadegg Pitts Turner Pombo Shaw Pomerov Shimkus Walsh Portman Shuster Wamp Pryce (OH) Sisisky Watkins Quinn Skeen Watts (OK) . Radanovich Skelton Weldon (FL) Smith (MI) Rahall Weldon (PA) Ramstad Smith (NJ) Weller Smith (OR) Redmond White Regula Smith (TX) Whitfield Reves Smith, Linda Wicker Riley Snowbarger Wilson Rodriguez Solomon Wolf Young (AK) Roemer Souder Rogan Spence

NOES-200 Abercrombie Ganske Ackerman Gejdenson Allen Gephardt Andrews Gilchrest Baldacci Gilman Barrett (WI) Granger Greenwood Becerra Bentsen Gutierrez Hall (OH) Berman Bilbray Hamilton Bishop Harman Blagojevich Hastings (FL) Blumenauer Hefner Hilliard Boehlert Bonior Hinchey Bono Hobson Borski Hooley Brady (PA) Horn Houghton Brown (CA) Brown (FL) Hover Brown (OH) Jackson (IL) Burr Jackson-Lee Buyer Calvert (TX) Campbell Jefferson Capps John Cardin Johnson (CT) Carson Johnson E.B. Castle Kaptur Clay Kennedy (MA) Clement Clyburn Kennedy (RI) Condit Kennelly Conyers Kildee Kilpatrick Cox Kim Kind (WI) Coyne Cummings Davis (FL) Kleczka Davis (IL) Knollenberg Davis (VA) Kolbe Kucinich DeFazio DeGette LaFalce Delahunt Lampson DeLauro Lantos Deutsch Lazio Dicks Leach Dingell Lee Dixon Levin Lewis (CA) Doggett Lewis (GA) Dooley Dreier Lofgren Engel Lowey Eshoo Luther Maloney (CT) Evans Maloney (NY) Farr Fattah Manton Fawell Markey Fazio Matsui Filner McCarthy (MO)

McCarthy (NY)

McDade

McHale

McKeon McKinney

McDermott McGovern

Foley

Ford

Frost

Furse

Forbes

Frank (MA)

Frelinghuysen

McNulty Meehan Meek (FL) Meeks (NY) Menendez Millender-McDonald Miller (CA) Moakley Mollohan Moran (VA) Morella Murtha Nadler Neal Oberstar Obey Olver Owens Packard Pallone Pascrell Payne Pelosi Porter Poshard Price (NC) Rangel Riggs Rivers Ros-Lehtinen Rothman Roybal-Allard Rush Sabo Sanchez Sanders Sawyer Schumer Scott Serrano Shays Sherman Skaggs Slaughter Smith, Adam Snyder Stabenow Stark Stokes Strickland Sununu Tauscher Thomas Thompson Tierney Towns Vento Visclosky Waters Watt (NC)

Waxman

Wexler Wise Wynn Weygand Woolsey Yates NOT VOTING—3

Mrs. CLAYTON changed her vote from "no" to "aye."

Young (FL)

So the amendment was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The CHAIRMAN. The committee will rise informally to receive a message.

The Speaker pro tempore (Mr LAHOOD) assumed the Chair.

SUNDRY MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Sundry messages in writing from the President of the United States were communicated to the House by Mr. Sherman Williams, one of his secretaries.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. Lahood). The Committee will resume its sitting.

DEPARTMENTS OF VETERANS AF-FAIRS AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND INDEPEND-ENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1999

The Committee resumed its sitting. (By unanimous consent Mr. LINDER was allowed to speak out of order.)

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Chairman, regrettably I was not present to vote on Rollcall Numbers 337, 338 and 339 last Friday afternoon. Had I been present I would have voted aye on 337, no on vote 338 and aye on vote 339 which was the final passage of the Patient Protection Act.

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

Mr. Chairman, I yield to my colleague, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. Scott).

(Mr. SCOTT asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Chairman, I rise to support the motion which will be offered by the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. OBEY) a little bit later in the evening.

Mr. Chairman, in 1994 the Consumer Product Safety Commission decided to grant part of a petition by State fire marshals, State fire marshals who have been asking the CPSC to develop a safety standard for upholstered furniture to address the problems of fires started from small open flames such as lighters, matches and candles. Every year 200 people are killed and 600 injured unnecessarily by fires which start on upholstered couches and chairs. Most of the fires start when children play with lighters and matches, and every year 40 children under age 5 die in fires started by burning upholstered furniture.

These fires, Mr. Chairman, cost an estimated \$1 billion and are completely avoidable. These fires could be avoided

by using fire-retardant chemicals to reduce the flammability of upholstered furniture. The CPSC has been working for the past 4 years to conduct tests and evaluate all of the issues relating to the proposed standard to reduce fires, but the upholstered furniture industry does not want this standard to move forward, so in subcommittee an amendment was added to tie the CPSC up in red tape and paperwork and delay the development of these standards.

Mr. Chairman, the study required in this bill is unnecessary, it is a stall tactic, and the CPSC estimates that it would take more than 5 years and cost nearly a million dollars to do this unnecessary study. In the meantime more fires will occur putting peoples' lives in danger. Each year that goes by before the standard is put in place 200 people die, each year 600 people are injured unnecessarily, and each year that goes by nearly \$1 billion in damages and social costs from these preventable fires occur. Each year that goes by 40 more children under age five will die from fires and burns.

□ 1845

Will we continue to sacrifice the lives of our children and firemen? Will we pander to the upholstered furniture industry to stop the CPSC from taking steps to prevent these completely avoidable fires? No. I urge my colleagues to support this motion to recommit.

Mr. Chairman, I am pleased to yield to my colleague, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PASCRELL). Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Chairman, we

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Chairman, we will vote on a motion to recommit with specific instructions to strike section 425. This section puts the interest of an industry over the interest of our citizens. Today we won a victory on children's sleepwear fire safety standards. We demonstrated Congress' bipartisan commitment to ensuring that our children are safer from fires. Now we must continue that commitment by allowing the Consumer Product Safety Commission to proceed on upholstered flammability standards.

In a letter to the Committee on Rules, the Consumer Product Safety Commission called this language an obstacle to their work. They said, and I quote:

The proposal creates additional costs to an ongoing project and adds considerable delay and redundancy with no additional benefits to the American public. This is only intended to interfere and disrupt the orderly process already developed by the Consumer Product Safety Commission to consider a serious hazard facing American consumers.

That is not stated by any Congressperson. That is stated by the CPSC. Unfortunately, if this VA-HUD appropriations bill passes with section 425, the \$16 billion upholstery manufacturing industry will receive an early Christmas present. That is what this is all about.

While the industry is laughing its way to the bank, thousands of Americans will be in jeopardy and will continue to be in jeopardy. They will be